

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BELGRA 04907 171411Z

44

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02 SS-15

NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

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P 171340Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4167

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4907

E O 11652 GDS

TAGS: CASC PFOR YO US

SUBJ: LAZLO TOTH

1. DURING INITIAL CALL ON FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS FRANJO HERLJEVIC, AMBASSADOR RAISED TOTH CASE. HE EXPRESSED DEEP PERSONAL AND OFFICIAL CONCERN AND PUZZLEMENT OVER ARREST OF AMERICAN CITIZEN FOR TAKING PICTURES OF SUGAR FACTORY. HE MENTIONED REPEATED EXPRESSIONS OF CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST AND RECALLED AGREEMENT BETWEEN PRESIDENTS FORD AND TITO THAT AMERICANS OF YUGOSLAV ORIGIN SHOULD BE GLUE HOLDING TWO COUNTRIES TOGETHER RATHER THAN OBSTACLE TO BETTER RELATIONS.

2. HERLJEVIC RESPONDED THAT HE AGREED NATIONAL MINORITIES MUST BE GLUE. HOWEVER, HE ASSERTED 800 PHOTOGRAPHS WERE FOUND ON TOTH AND THAT HE WAS NOT ARRESTED FOR PHOTOGRAPHING SUGAR FACTORY,(ONE OF JERLJEVIC'S AIDES ADDED WORD "ALONE"). HE SAID THAT HE WAS NOT INFORMED IN DETAIL ABOUT CASE AND VOLUNTEERED TO LOOK INTO FURTHER. HE SPECIFICALLY ADDED THAT HE WAS NOT CLOSING THE DOOR AND THAT GOOD FRIENDS CAN ALWAYS FIND THE MEANS OF COOPERATION.
SILBERMAN

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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